

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A hand-held rotary cutter for cutting thin non-metallic sheet materials, comprising:

a handle having a hand grip portion; and

a circular cutting blade having a symmetrical cutting edge, a diameter, and a thickness, wherein the cutting blade is pivotally mounted to the handle, and the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty degrees and not greater than fifty degrees;

wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is not greater than fifteen times the thickness.

4. (Previously Presented) The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 1, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty-three degrees and not greater than forty-seven degrees.

5. (Original) The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 4, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is substantially equal to forty-five degrees.

6. (Original) The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 1 wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is substantially equal to six times the thickness.

13. (Currently Amended) A hand-held rotary cutter for cutting thin non-metallic sheet materials, comprising:

a handle having a hand grip portion; and

a replaceable cutting blade and clip assembly, wherein the cutting blade includes a thickness, a diameter not greater than fifteen times the thickness, and a symmetrical cutting edge having an edge angle that is not less than forty degrees and not greater than fifty degrees, and the cutting blade is rotatably mounted on the clip;

wherein the cutting blade and clip assembly is attached to the handle and can be selectively replaced.

25. (Currently Amended) A rotary cutter for cutting thin non-metallic sheet materials, comprising:

a handle having a hand grip portion; and

a circular cutting blade having a symmetrical cutting edge, a diameter, and a thickness, wherein the cutting blade is pivotally mounted to the handle;

wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty degrees and not greater than fifty degrees.

26. (Previously Presented) The rotary cutter of claim 25, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty-three degrees and not greater than forty-seven degrees.

27. (Previously Presented) The rotary cutter of claim 26, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is substantially equal to forty-five degrees.

28. (Currently Amended) A rotary cutting blade for cutting thin non-metallic sheet materials, comprising:

a body having a diameter and a thickness;

a symmetrical cutting edge extending around the periphery of the body, the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty degrees and not greater than fifty degrees;

an axle aperture that extends side to side through the thickness of the body;

wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is not greater than fifteen times the thickness.

29. (Previously Presented) The cutting blade of claim 28, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty-three degrees and not greater than forty-seven degrees.

30. (Previously Presented) The cutting blade of claim 29, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is substantially equal to forty-five degrees.

31. (New) The rotary cutting blade of claim 28 wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is substantially equal to six times the thickness.

32. (New) The rotary cutting blade of claim 28, wherein the cutting edge includes a first side surface and a second side surface, and the thickness of the body extends between the first side surface and the second side surface.